

HRH The Prince of Wales  
Clarence House  
London  
SW1A 1BA

de

30th September 2004

*Dear Prince Charles,*

I very much enjoyed coming to the lecture and dinner last week, celebrating the tenth anniversary of your Business and the Environment Programme.

Knowing of your great personal interest in conservation and particularly as it relates to the fate of sea birds, I felt you may be interested in the attached information on the High Seas Task Force that I am chairing:

- A general Briefing document on IUU
- An update letter I recently wrote to all existing Task Force member Ministers
- A briefing document for UK MP's

IUU (Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated) fishing is a serious ecological and environmental threat. It is having terrible effects on the marine environment and is also driving certain species such as the endangered albatross towards extinction through complete disregard of associated conservation measures.

If you desire any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you also for your letter of 15 September from [redacted] appreciate your help in pushing for wider ratification of the ACAP treaty.

I greatly

*Regards*  
*Elliot Morley*  
ELLIOT MORLEY

- 1) Morcey to see
- 2) Mike Rinner, for advice + draft reply by Mon 8th Nov
- 3)

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BIRKHALL

21<sup>st</sup> October, 2004

*Dear Mr. Morley,*

Thank you so much for your letter telling me about the High Seas Task Force. I must say that it is enormously encouraging to know of your efforts to try and bring to heel the recalcitrant countries who sanction, either directly or by turning a blind eye, pirate and illegal fishing and I do wish you well in your endeavours. You have certainly managed to bring together a powerful alliance of N.G.O.s and countries. I particularly hope that the illegal fishing of the Patagonian Toothfish will be high on your list of priorities because until that trade is stopped, there is little hope for the poor old albatross, for which I shall continue to campaign...

By the way, I wonder whether any thought might have been given to the possible role that could be played by the navies of the countries associated with the High Seas Task Force? I am probably being very ignorant about all this, so please forgive me, but is the Royal Navy, for instance, included in the discussions on this issue? I daresay you will tell me there are all sorts of legal problems that prevent any worthwhile action...!

Incidentally, I am also looking forward to the publication of the Royal Commission's report on sustainable fishing. I hear on my own grapevine that it may be quite hard-hitting, which can only be a good thing and I just hope that the powers-that-be, and the general public, take note of its findings.

Thank you again for writing as you did. I know just what a personal commitment you have made to this issue and how deeply you feel about it. Let us hope that between all of us who mind about sustainable fishing, we can make a difference before it is all too late...

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*Yours most sincerely*  
*Mandy*

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**defra**  
Department for Environment  
and Rural Affairs

HRH The Prince of Wales  
Clarence House  
London  
SW1A 1BA

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November 2004

*Dear Prince Charles,*

Thank you for your letter of 21 October regarding the IUU Task Force and for your kind words of support.

Since I wrote to you on the 21 September the Task Force Members have been asked to respond to a paper on "Possible Areas of Intervention by the High Seas Task Force". I have enclosed a copy together with a copy of the UK's. I hope that you are further encouraged to see that among the measures we are also looking at ways in which the Royal Navy "blue water fleet" may be able to help in combating IUU fishing.

I will be happy to keep you informed of progress.

*Regards*  
*Elliot Morley*  
ELLIOT MORLEY

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